COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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Working paper

Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

France, aware in particular of the concerns of the non-nuclear-weapon States which, while in favour of the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones, find themselves in a situation in which it seems unlikely at present that all the States of a region can agree on the establishment of such a zone, has decided to extend its assurance that it will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons to States not possessing such weapons individually.

Accordingly on 11 June last France declared, through Mr. Claude CHEYSSON, its Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking before the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament, that "for its part ... it will not use nuclear arms against a State that does not have these weapons and has pledged not to seek them, except in the case of an act of aggression carried out in association or alliance with a nuclear-weapon State against France or against a State with which France has a security commitment".

France also hopes thereby to make it easier for the Security Council to take note of the common elements in the assurances not to use or to threaten to use nuclear weapons against States which do not possess such weapons.

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